## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1.     (Currently Amended)  A task management system for executing a task selected from a plurality of tasks, the system stored on a computer-readable medium and comprising:

a task management table storing a plurality of task combinations, each task combination in the plurality of task combinations comprising at least one task from the plurality of tasks, the task management table comprising at least a listing of tasks stored therein, a unique identifier associated with each task stored therein, and an indication of whether each task stored therein is flagged as being a task that must complete execution prior to switching between task combinations;

a processing unit for executing tasks in a present task combination;

a judging unit for determining whether there is a task combination switchover request; and

a switchover unit for, when the judging unit determines there is a task combination switchover request, switching over from the present task combination to a requested task combination ~~after completing an execution of a specified task in the present task combination~~,

wherein:

~~the specified task is a task of which a processing completion is requested when switching over the task combination,~~

the task management table is generated and stored before~~hand~~ executing tasks in the present task combination ~~for every application~~,

the judging unit is adapted to determine whether there is a task combination switchover request based on a comparison of pattern numbers associated with the present and requested task combination;

~~if~~ when it is judged that the task combination switchover request exists, the judging unit is further adapted to determine whether a not-yet-executed task exists in the current task combination;

~~if~~ when it is judged that the not-yet executed task exists, the judging unit is
further adapted to judge whether or not there exists a <u>flagged</u> task ~~of which the
processing completion is requested~~ among the not-yet executed tasks; ~~and~~

<u>when it is judged that the flagged task exists in the not-yet-executed task,
the processing unit is adapted to continue executing the task in the current task, and when
it is judged that the flagged task does not exist in the not-yet-executed task, the
switchover unit is adapted to switch over from the present task combination to the
requested task combination; and</u>

the processing unit is adapted to execute tasks in the requested task
combination after the switching over.


2 – 3.    (Canceled)


4.    (Currently Amended)  A task management program for executing a task selected from a
plurality of tasks stored in a task management table<u>, the task management table
comprising at least a listing of tasks stored therein, a unique identifier associated with
each task stored therein, and an indication of whether each task stored therein is flagged
as being a task that must complete execution prior to switching between task
combinations</u>, the program stored on a <u>non-transitory</u> computer-readable medium and
comprising the steps of:

judging whether a task combination switchover request has been made based on a
comparison of pattern numbers associated with a present task combination, including at
least one task from the plurality of tasks, and a requested task combination, including at
least one task from the plurality of tasks;

<u>when it is judged that the task combination switchover request exists, determining
whether a not-yet-executed task exists in the current task combination;</u>

<u>when it is judged that the not-yet-executed task exists, determining whether there
exists a flagged task among the not-yet-executed task;</u>

<u>when it is judged that the flagged task exists in the not-yet-executed task,
executing the task in the current task;</u>

<u>when it is judged that the flagged task does not exist in the not-yet-executed task,</u> switching over from the present task combination to the requested task combination ~~when a switchover request has been made, wherein the switching over occurs after completing an execution of a specified task~~; and

executing the tasks in the requested task combination after the switching over, wherein:

~~the specified task is a task of which a processing completion is requested when switching over the task combination,~~

the task management table is generated and stored before~~hand~~ <u>executing tasks in the present task combination</u> ~~for every application~~,

~~if it is judged that the task combination switchover request exists, it is determined whether a not-yet-executed task exists in the current task combination;~~

~~if it is judged that the not-yet-executed task exists, it is judged whether there exists a task of which the processing completion is requested among the not-yet executed tasks.~~

5 – 8.    (Canceled)